

TEAM DINFOS: Instructor receives distinguished certification

It can be difficult to get ahead in today's multimedia market, to stand out, be noticed. More than ever, you need a clear and focused way to tell the world about your expertise. A solution? Become Adobe Certified.

Chief Petty Officer Benjamin Olvey has recently become the Defense Information School's only instructor to be a certified expert in Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator.

"Becoming certified means a lot to the profession I am in," said Olvey. "As an instructor I am able to be more efficient in troubleshooting problems in these programs if the students have any questions."

An Adobe Certified Expert (ACE) is a person who has demonstrated proficiency with one or more Adobe software products. To become an ACE, you must pass one or more product-specific proficiency exams and agree to the ACE terms and conditions.

Olvey is the Section Chief of the Digital Multimedia Course and Basic Multimedia Illustrator Course in the Visual Communications Department at DINFOS. His accomplishment has been seen by some of his peers as not merely a personal accomplishment, but as a model for others.

"I feel that he has set the tone for other instructors to come aboard and receive the same certification," said Senior Chief Petty Officer Roberto Cerda. "He is always willing to inform instructors about the finances available to further their education. He is a prime example of what can be accomplished when you take advantage of your resources."

With financial assistance from the U.S. Navy, Olvey was able to take the required certification exam which in his own words was a challenging task.

"The test was not easy," he said. "It took a lot of personal time, working with the programs, and studying the program guides. The test consisted of multiple choice questions and asked very detailed questions, which one would only know if they were very familiar with the programs."

Olvey's passion for multimedia and web design grew as he was a young sailor.

"I had taken some courses while in the Navy which taught me about the HTML language in the early 1990s," he said. "After my first tour of teaching at DINFOS, I was the Webmaster for six months on the USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN69). It was there my interest was sparked again in terms of multimedia and web design. I have been given yet another opportunity to teach here at DINFOS and I am really enjoying the departments."

According to Olvey, keeping creative projects going on and finding ways to help students learn and grow keeps him focused and excited.

“In this field, you never stop learning,” he said. “I love to learn new things every day. I’ve found that the best way to keep motivated is to set aside a little time each day to learn something new. Take advantage of slower periods to read, get caught up on trends and new technologies.”

“Although teaching and photography are constant joys in my life,” said Olvey, “I plan to pursue a career in web design upon my retirement from the U.S. Navy.”